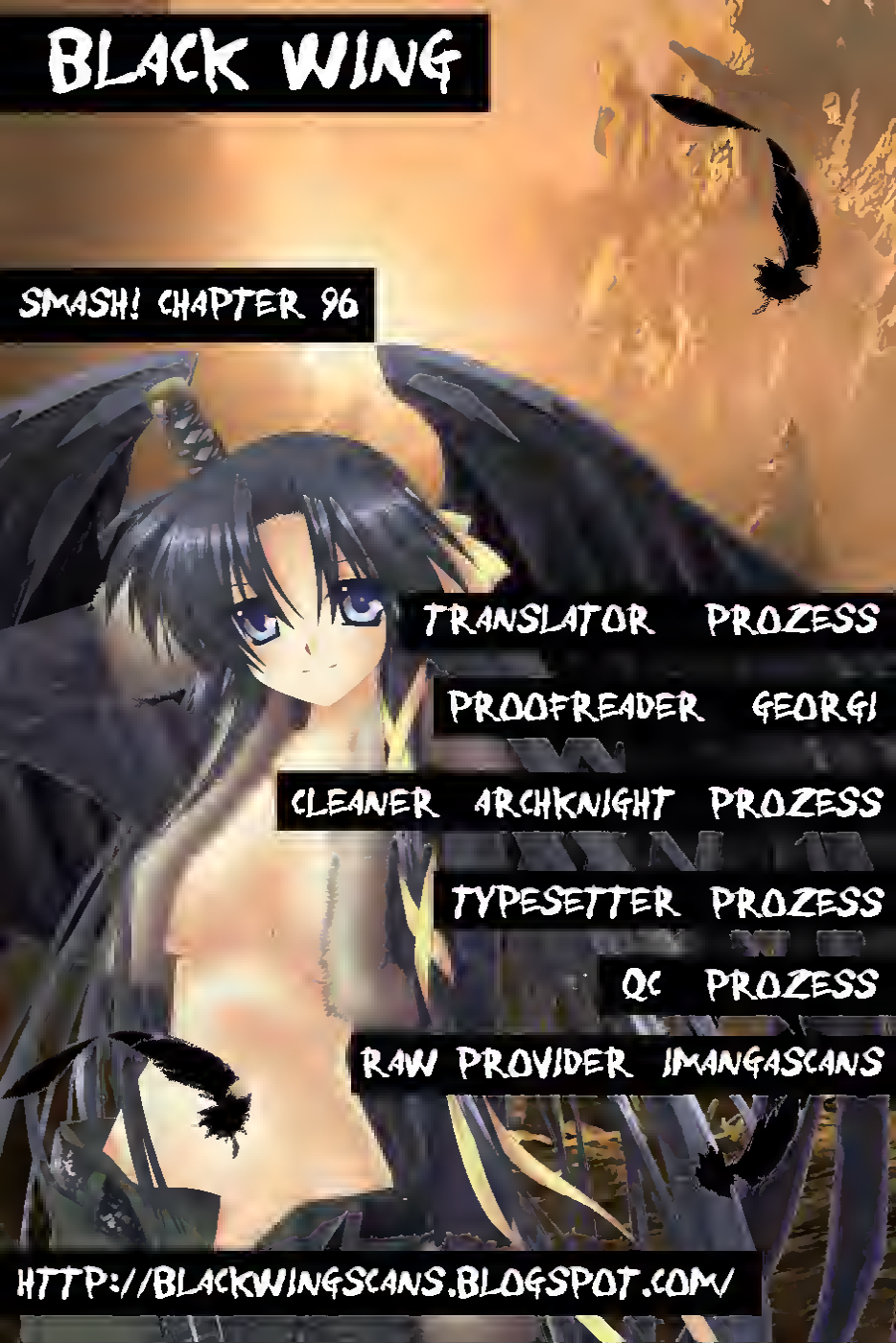
BLACK WING
SMASH! CHAPTER 96
TRANSLATOR PROZESS
PROOFREADER GEORGI
CLEANER ARCHKNIGHT PROZESS
TYPESETTER PROZESS
QC PROZESS
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# スマッシュ!

11

SHONEN MAGAZINE COMICS

咲香里

KCM4076
KC MAGAZINE

スマッシュ!

11

咲香里

講談社

SHONEN MAGAZINE COMICS

U-19代表合宿に参加中の翔太は、代表残留を懸けた試合で、前インハイ準優勝・沢本と激突!!
沢本に押されながらも、なんとか食らい付く翔太。
負けたくない!! 負けたら何もかも失ってしまう……。

BLACK WING
SMASH! CHAPTER 104
TRANSLATOR PROZESS
PROOFREADER MELODICXSTAR
CLEANER KUNDUMSTAF
TYPESETTER KAJII
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# スマッシュ!

11

咲香里（さきかおり）

# 96 GIVING EVERYTHING

# 97 TRUE POWER

# 98 TEARS

# 99 FOUNDATION

# 100 YOUNGSTERS

# 101 THEIR DREAMS

# 102 DIFFERENCE IN POWER

# 103 ELITE

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# 105 INTERESTING!


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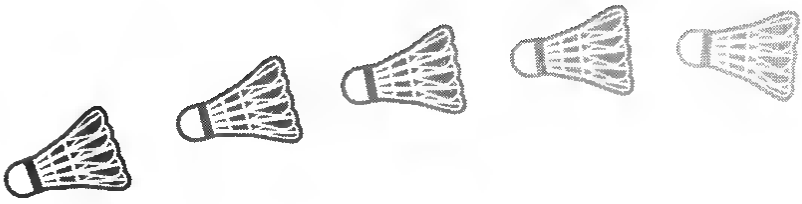


★この物語はフィクションであり、実在の人物・団体・出来事などとは、一切関係ありません。

THE RUNNER-UP IN THE LAST INTERHIGH ...
.... SAWAMOTO SHOU ...
IF I DON'T BEAT HIM,
I'LL BE REMOVED FROM THE U-19 TEAM.
IN ORDER TO STAY AT HER SIDE,
I FINALLY GOT A STEP CLOSER TO YUUHI.
I MUST WIN AGAINST HIM!!
スッシュ!

#96: GIVING EVERYTHING

スパーン
タ
A PRECISE CUT.
ン
ン
ン

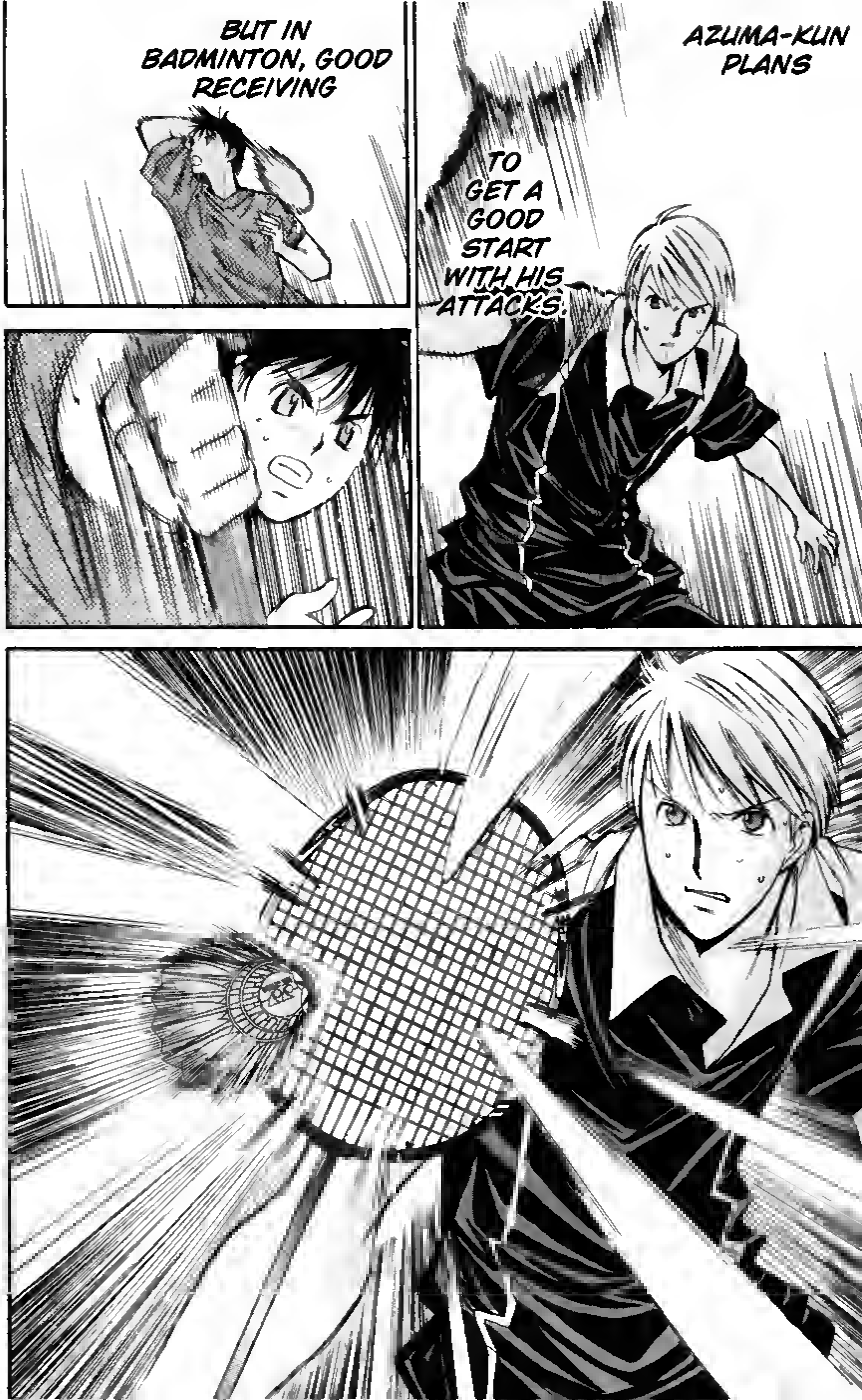
1—0
NO MATTER HOW PRECISE AND DIFFICULT HIS SHOTS ARE,
IF HE IS TOO OVERCONFIDENT, HE WON'T REACH MY RETURN ON TIME.
1—0

YOU CAN'T MANAGE THAT WITHOUT ENORMOUS CONCENTRATION.
A FETCH-ING LIKE HIT.
HE GOT MY FALLING HAIRPIN SHOT!!
TO AVOID MISTAKES, ONE WOULD NORMALLY PLAY A SAFER RETURN.
I SEE.
YOU SERIOUSLY...
PLAN TO WIN AGAINST ME.

PIPIPI...
PIPI!!
YEAH, THOSE TWO OVER THERE.
THEY'RE PRETTY SERIOUS.
MH?
THERE'S STILL A GAME GOING?
OKAY.
THE FIRST ROUND IS OVER, SO MAKE NEW PAIRS.

ドゴ
ドゴ
ドゴ

110


BUT IN BADMINTON, GOOD RECEIVING
AZUMA-KUN PLANS
TO GET A GOOD START WITH HIS ATTACKS.

12
17
IS WHAT MAKES YOU STRONG.

I KNOW THAT HE GIVES ME GOOD OPPORTUNITIES.
HE'S REALLY STRONG...

Haa
Haa
Haa
Haa
Haa
Haa

BUT... I WON'T LOSE.
I'LL KEEP GOING.

HE PLANS TO TIRE ME OUT AND INCREASE MY MISTAKES.
THAT JUST SHOWS HOW MUCH CONFIDENCE HE HAS IN HIS RECEIVING.

KEEP GOING AND WIN!!

HE KEEPS ATTACK-ING.
ISN'T IT POINT-LESS?
110
NOT HIGH!
NOT PLAYING HIGH!
ATTACKING!
PERSIST-ENT!!
SO RECKLESS!
SO DESPERATE TO WIN THIS GAME?
WHY ARE YOU

IF I LOSE,
I DON'T WANT TO LOSE!!
I LOSE EVERY-THING.
MY FRIEND-SHIP.
AND THE TRUST IN ME.
BAD-MINTON IS
MY EVERY-THING!
U-

WA
AAA
A

YAY!!

WINNER:
AZUMA
SHOUTA
WITH
21 - 18!!
#97: TRUE POWER
スマッシュ!

HAA
HAA
HAA
EH?
YOU'RE AMAZ-ING, AZUMA-KUN.
GREAT MATCH.

WHAT WERE YOU DOIN', SAWAMOTO?
YOU LOST, 'CAUSE YOU WENT EASY ON HIM, TAKING HIM AS A NEW FACE.
YOU WERE JUST IN BAD FORM.
NAH, HE COMPLETELY OVERWHELMED ME.
IF YOU LOSE AGAIN, I'M GONNA PUNCH YOU.
HE WAS CONCENTRATING TILL THE END AND DIDN'T ALLOW ANY GAPS.

I WON'T FORGIVE YOU
FOR LOSING.
KOGA IS BEING CRAZY AS ALWAYS.
NEXT GAME, KOGA-KUN AND AZUMA-KUN, GET ON THE COURT.
I'VE KNOWN KOGA SINCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.
SINCE WE PLAYED TOGETHER OFTEN, WE GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER PRETTY WELL.
0 - 0, PLAY!!

I HAVE A BIGGER VICTODY RECORD THAN KOGA.
THAT'S WHY HE DOESN'T WANT TO LOSE TO ME.
BECAUSE HE'S A SORE LOSER.
SHOULD I TELL YOU HIS WEAKNESS?
HE HAS THE HABIT OF RETURNING THE SHUTTLECOCK TO THE FRONT IF YOU AIM FOR HIS BODY.
JUST AIM FOR THAT.
WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME...?
'CAUSE I WANT HIM TO GET EVEN STRONGER.

ドスッ
ドドド

THAT BASTARD...
IT WAS TRUE.
HE'S GETTING COCKY, JUST BECAUSE HE WON AGAINST SAWAMOTO.
I'LL SHOW YOU THAT JUST NOW WAS JUST A FLUKE.

!!
LUCKY!
KOGA LOST HIS COOL.
IF HE DOESN'T GET IT BACK, HE WON'T WIN.

PLOP
ROLL

HE ...
YAY !!
THAT'S HIS
I UNDERES-TIMATED HIM.
TRUE POWER.

AH,
WELL, YOU SEE, KOGA WAS UNDER-ESTIMATING AZUMA-KUN.
YEAH, HE ONLY ACKNOWL-EDGES YOU AND HIM-SELF AS WORTHY.
WHAT'S UP?
HE NOTICED AFTER ALL.
I SAW AZUMA-KUN PLAY JUST NOW, HE'S PRETTY GOOD.
HE HAS SOME PARTS THAT STILL NEED IM-PROVEMENT, BUT HIS SENSES ARE GOOD.
YEAH, HE HAS A GOOD BODY BALANCE AND MOVES FAST.
AND BECAUSE OF HIS PRE-CISE PLAY, HE RARELY MAKES MISTAKES
READING HIS INTENTIONS ARE PRETTY HARD.
YEAH
ラーん

EVERY SHOT IS HARD TO RETURN.
EVEN WITH HIS HABIT EXPOSED, IT DOESN'T GET ANY EASIER.
KOGA IS STRONG.
SO I MUST BE PERSISTENT.
AND PLAY
PRECISELY

WHAT'S UP?

HEE
AMAZING
YOU KNOW, TALENTED PLAYERS,
SOMETIMES HAVE MOMENTS OF RAPID GROWTH.
I SAW IT BEFORE...
PLAYERS LIKE HIM
WILL CH. NGE
IT'S HIM!!
THE LEVEL OF THIS SPORT.

OF
JAPANESE
BADMINTON
—!!

はぁ～
PUUH
...
ザッ
I'M SO TIRED AGAIN..
!!!
ビシュッ
SPLASH
WHAT ...
AZUMA SHOUTA!
TIME FOR A SAUNA-BATTLE.
EEH!?

GEEZ, YOU'RE SUCH KIDS ..
DON'T GO, SAVE ME.
WAIT ANAN.
I'M OUT OF HERE.
YOU'RE ALL IDIOTS
ME TOO!!
I'M JOINING TOO—!!
YOU'LL LOSE
IT'S ALREADY SET I'LL WIN.
WHAT?
OLD TIMER BE QUIET.
HELL ...!!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
SO HOT
TO CLEAN UP AFTER THEM IN THE END..
STAND BY
WE'LL HAVE...
AHH
RYUUNO SUKE'S BLEEDING!
DANGEROUS!
YAMATO TOO.
KAMIO-SAN FAINTED—

# #98: TEARS

ﾊﾛﾊﾛﾊﾛﾊﾛ

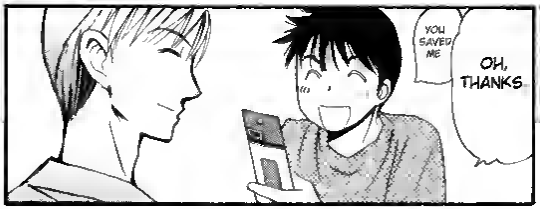
SHE'S
REALLY FAST.
IT WAS IN!
p l o p
THAT'S OUT
HER PLAYS ARE PRE-CISE AND BOLD.
IT WASN'T
THAT GREAT OF A PLAY, BUT I STILL COULDN'T GET IT.
THAT'S WHAT YOU CALL
TALENT, HUH.

Mpf Mpf
YAMATO.
Mpf Mpf
"BEEN A WHILE"? I GREETED YOU BEFORE.
BEEN A WHILE.
NO, NOT REALLY ...
WERE YOU AVOIDING ME, 'CAUSE YOU WERE AFRAID I WOULD TELL YOU THAT YOU'RE NOISY AGAIN?
I MEANT IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE'VE TALKED PROPERLY.
THAT WAS JUST A GREETING.
EH— WELL
THEN WHY DIDN'T YOU CONTACT ME?
THAT'S NOT THE CASE!
WHEN YOU WENT BACK HOME, YOU DIDN'T EVEN CONTACT ME, NOR COME TO SEE ME.
IF YOU HATE ME, JUST SAY SO.

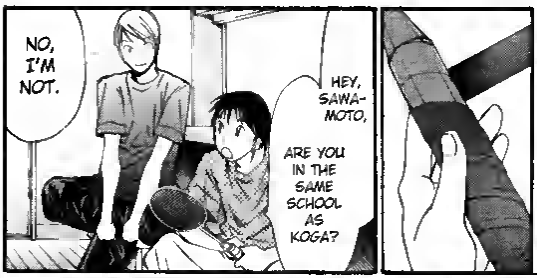
YAMATO IS IN TROUBLE.
NAH, THAT'S FINE.
THEY'VE KNOW EACH OTHER SINCE MIDDLE SCHOOL.
THEY'RE ALWAYS LIKE THAT.
MHM
SHE'S HAYASAKA-SAN, ONE YEAR OLDER.
SHE WAS THE STRONGEST PLAYER IN THE CLUB IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
AT THAT TIME, YAMATO PRETTY MUCH SUCKED, SO SHE TRAINED HIM A LOT.
MHM
TOGETHER WITH YAMATO'S SISTER, WE FOUR OFTEN PLAYED TO-GETHER
SOUNDS FUN
EH?
BECAUSE YOU WERE SMILING.
HARU, DO YOU HAVE A SPARE GRIP TAPES?
IF SO, CAN YOU GIVE ME ONE?

I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU LATER.
THANKS, SAW. MOTO||-KUN.
NO, I DON'T.
AH, I HAVE SOME.
Hayasaka senpai.... is teasing me again ...!!
WHY IS SHE ALWAYS LIKE THAT.
DOES SHE HATE ME....
ISN'T IT THE OPPOSITE?
BASICALLY, HER TEASING YOU MEANS,
STOP IT, IT'S NO USE. LIKE YAMATO COULD UNDERSTAND SUCH COMPLEX THINGS.
SHE'S SNUGGLING UP TO YOU.
YOU CALL THAT SNUGGLING!?

SHE'S ALWAYS LECTURING ME!!
AND SCOLDING!!
SHE WON'T LET GO UNTIL I APOLOGIZE——!!
HEY, CAN I COME IN?
コン コン


OH, THANKS
YOU SAVED ME

I BROUGHT THE GRIP TAPE.


NO, I'M NOT.
HEY, SAWAMOTO, ARE YOU IN THE SAME SCHOOL AS KOGA?

OHHH
AND OUR FATHERS PLAYED DOUBLES TOGETHER IN THE PAST.
SINCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, WE PLAYED OFTEN AGAINST EACH OTHER IN TOURNAMENTS
SINCE WE WERE BOTH IN THE BEST 8.

IN MY SECOND YEAR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL, I LOST TO HIM FOR THE FIRST TIME.
EEH !?
THAT KOGA WAS!?
WHENEVER WE PLAYED AGAINST EACH OTHER, KOGA GOT ALL FIRED UP,
AND CRIED WHEN HE LOST.
HOW'S THAT?
NOW YOU KNOW MY SKILL.
NO, I WAS PRETTY SERIOUS.
THAT WAS A GAG...?
AT THAT TIME I WAS IN BAD CONDITION AND PRETTY SHOCKED,
BUT WHEN I SAW KOGA WAS EVEN MORE SHOCKED, MY SPIRIT LIFTED.
YOU SURE GOT FRIENDLY, SAWAMOTO.

I WAS STILL INEXPERIENCED BACK THEN.
BECAUSE YOU WERE MAKING FUN OF BADMINTON BY CALLING IT "BATTLEDORE AND SHUTTLECOCK" AT OUR FIRST ENCOUNTER
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, IT WAS YOUR FAULT.
MY VERY FIRST IMPRESSION OF HIM WAS THE WORST!!
TOTALLY UNSOCIAL AND COLD.
AH— YOU REALLY GOT ME BACK THEN.
A TOTAL FAIL
SHORTLY AFTER THAT, YOU REQUESTED A GAME,
AND LOST MISERABLY.
UWA. HE CAME AGAIN.
SHOUTA!!
ばぢ
FAST-DRINKING-BATTLE!!
WHAT IS IT THIS TIME...?
NEXT BATTLE.
おん

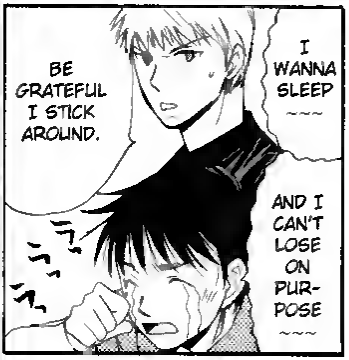
GO!!
I'M PRETTY STUFFED THOUGH ...
READY
EH.
EH.
GO, GO, GO!
FIGHT ON, BOTH!!
THEIR SPEED IS THE SAME TOO.
OHHH! THEY STARTED SIMULTANE OUSLY.
YES!

I EMPTIED IT EARLIER!
BUT SHOUTA RAISED HIS HAND FASTER.
WHAT!?
IT'S SHOUTA'S WIN!!
YOU'RE BEING FAVORABLE HERE!
I'M NOT.
PLEASE BE...
YEAH, SHOUTA WAS FASTER.
YOU WERE A BIT SLOWER SINCE YOU WERE GULPING.
!!!
DAMMIT ....!!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE BATTLING OVER...
BUT WOULDN'T BE A BADMINTON MATCH THE BEST?

WHY DID HE SAY THAT...
...
YOU GOT A POINT THERE.

...
OKAY.
I'M BORED OF GAMES,
SO WE'LL COMPETE IN LIFITNG UP THE SHUTTLE-OCK.

GO!!


I WANNA SLEEP ~~~
BE GRATEFUL I STICK AROUND.
AND I CAN'T LOSE ON PUR-POSE ~~~

READY

おお
?
WHAT ARE THEY DOING ?
SEEING WHO CAN HOLD ON LONGER
...
GOOD TIMING.
HARU PLAY A BIT WITH ME?
JUST SHOOT FROM THE CENTER.
OKAY.
110

……
!!
AH.
WAH
おお
おお
おお
ポトッ
A DRAW!!
ボーゼン
……
……
あはは
はは

SOME-HOW, I COULDN'T CALM DOWN.
WHY DID YOU COME TO THE GYM?
SORRY FOR IN-TERRUPT-ING YOU.
AND I DON'T SEEM TO BE MAKING ANY PROGRESS.
A GIRL YOUNGER THAN ME IS BETTER THAN ME,
MY GRADES AREN'T THAT GOOD,
NOTHING GOOD IS HAPPENING.
YOU'RE ALWAYS ACTING HIGH, JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE OLDER,
I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'RE RELIEVING STRESS,
YOU'LL IMMEDI-ATELY TEASE ME LIKE THAT.
YOU SURE ARE LUCKY. YOU SEEM TO HAVE FUN.
BUT IF IT PISSES YOU OFF HAVING TO SEE ME, THEN AVOID ME.
I'M SICK OF YOU NAGGING AT ME.

...
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE TALKING TO!?
!!
はっ
YOU ...
ALWAYS GET BETTER AT ANY-THING...
HUH ?
HOW COULD I, WITH YOU SAYING STUFF LIKE THAT.
DESPITE A LOT OF TRAINING, DO YOU?
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND THE FEELINGS OF SOMEONE WHO CAN'T GET BETTER,
YEAH, I UNDER-STAND.
THAT I'M PATHETIC ...
I WAS JUST RELEASING MY STRESS ON YOU.

SORRY ....
....
NO WAY ...
How can this be~~~!?
HEY, SHOUTA!
NEXT BATTLE IS SHOGI!!
JUST LEAVE ME ALONE ALREADY!!

#99: FOUNDATION

5 MIN-UTE BREAK
SO TIRING——
THOUGH IT'S NOT ALL THAT DIFFERENT FROM MY NORMAL TRAINING SESSIONS.
IT'S THE SAME EXERCISES, BUT WE DO MORE OF THEM... AND FASTER
TRAINING TOGETHER WITH NATIONAL CANDIDATES IS DIFFERENT AFTER ALL.
HAHA
MMM, BUT WE AREN'T LOSING OUT TO THEM.
YES.
NEXT GAME, AZUMA-KUN AGAINST SANO-KUN.

YEAH~~~!!
THE BATTLE IS ON, SHOUTA!!
.....
TODAY IS THE LAST DAY,
IF I LOSE NOW, I'LL GIVE UP COMPLETELY.
YOU'RE A FORMIDABLE ENEMY!!
X FAST-EATING
X SAUNA
X COLA FAST-DRINKING
DRAW SHUTTLECOCK LIFTING
X SHOGI
GWAR
CHESS
NOW THAT I THINK BACK, I'VE ONLY LOST TILL NOW.
EH——!?
I'LL CONFESS TO HER!!
BUT SHOULD I INDEED WIN,

I SEE.
SHIT, I DEFINITELY CAN'T LOSE NOW.
NOT ONLY IN BADMINTON...
I DON'T WANT TO LOSE IN ANYTHING!

SO HOW IS IT?
ANY CAPABLE PLAYERS THERE?
THEY'RE THE ELITE FROM ALL OF JAPAN.
THEY'RE ALL PRETTY CAPABLE.
BUT ONE THAT CAN WIN AGAINST CHINA, KOREA, INDONESIA, MALAYSIA, DENMARK OR OTHER FOREIGN COUNTRIES.
WHAT I WANT,
IS NOT JUST A SKILLED PLAYER.

YOU GUYS,
I WANT THE STRONGEST PLAYER!!
ALSO WANT TO WIN, RIGHT?
DON'T YOU WANT TO BE NUMBER ONE IN THE WORLD?
I THINK JAPAN HAS THE POTENTIAL TO STAND AT THE TOP.
THAT'S EXACTLY WHY WE'RE SUPPORTING YOUNGER PLAYERS.
WHAT I MEAN IS,

WE NEED TO SHOW THE WORLD,
AT THE OLYMP-ICS!!
I WANT A MEDAL!!
I WANT IT AS MUCH AS AN ADDICT WANTS HIS DRUGS!!

IN THE FUTURE THEY'LL GET EVEN STRONGER WITH MORE TRAINING AND MORE EXPERIENCE.
THIS TIME WE HAVE A LOT OF PLAYERS WHO'VE MADE PROGRESS.
THEY WERE PLAYING BY MAKING USE OF THEIR HEADS.
CAN SHE WIN AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL?
THE CHANCES ARE HIGH FOR THAT.
THIS GIRL LOOKS GOOD.
SHE'S YOUNG, SKILLED AND LOOKS CUTE.
YEAH
FOR THAT IN TURN YOU NEED GOOD ORGANIZATION, CAPITAL, TIME
AND
YOU NEED TO MAKE IT POPULAR
SO THAT YOU HAVE ENOUGH PLAYERS TO CHOOSE FROM.
IF YOU WANT TO RAISE THE LEVEL OF A SPORT NATIONAL-WISE.

A STAR!!

WE'LL GIVE HER ALL OUR SUPPORT.

WE'LL MAKE IT SO THAT EVERYONE WILL WANT TO SUPPORT HER.

SHE'LL BECOME OUR FOUNDATION

TO SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT BADMINTON.

KITOU YUUHI

OSAKA

RYUU-NOSUKE..
RYU-
....
WINNER: AZUMA SHOUTA!!
21 21
15 18
A MAN WON'T GO BACK ON HIS WORD,
I GIVE UP....
COMP-LETELY...
I LOST...
SEEING HOW HARD HE TRIED, HE WAS REALLY SERIOUS.
BUT I GUESS I BETTER TELL HIM THE TRUTH.
I TOOK HIM ON EVERY TIME BY DECEIVING HIM...
SHOUTA!
H- HEY, RYUUNO-SUKE,
HAVE YOU BEEN IN CONTACT WITH YUUHI PROPERLY?

...
YOU GOT IT? HUH?
I KINDA GAVE YOU MY OKAY, BUT SHE'S STILL LIKE A SISTER TO ME.
YOU HAVE TO TREAT HER WELL!!
.... YES.
OKAY!?
I BET YOU'RE LONELY, BUT DUN CRY,
I THOUGHT YOU WOULD BREAK UP IMMEDIATELY.
BUT YOU KEEPING A LONG-DISTANCE RELATIONSHIP IS IMPRESSIVE.
はっ
...
... YOU CAN HIT ME LATER.
.... CAN YOU EXPLAIN THAT?

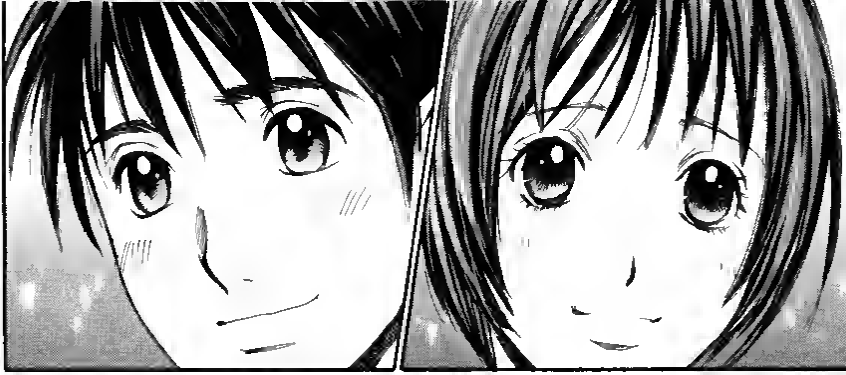
YOU ALL DID WELL DURING THE LAST 5 DAYS!!
I'LL CONTACT YOU LATER ABOUT SOME MEMBER SWITCHES AND OTHER THINGS.
BUT I WANT YOU TO TAKE PRIDE AS A TOP PLAYER AND FACE THEM.
THERE WILL BE VARIOUS GAMES WAITING FOR YOU NOW,
DISMISSED!!
JUST TRY.
NEXT TIME I'LL WIN.

.....
I'M REALLY SORRY ...
THERE-FORE...
I TOLD HIM TO KEEP IT HIDDEN, SINCE I THOUGHT YOU WOULD GIVE UP SOON.
IT WASN'T SOMETHING WE WANTED TO SPREAD AROUND.
I WON'T HIT ON HER ANYMORE.
I CAN GIVE UP ON HER, SEEING AS I WAS TOO LATE.
I UNDER-STAND YOUR SITUATION ...
HANG IN THERE, SHOUTA! IT'S JUST A BLUFF.
.....
IF HER LONELI-NESS GETS THE UPPER HAND AND SHE COMES TO ME, I HAVE NO CHOICE, RIGHT?
BUT IT'S A DIFFERENT STORY WHEN HER FEELINGS CHANGE, RIGHT?

SEE YA!
LET'S MEET AT THE INTER HIGH!!
MY FEELINGS OF NOT WANTING TO LOSE HAVE GOTTEN EVEN STRONGER.
THIS TRAINING WAS REALLY USEFUL.
BUT I NOTICED THAT A FEW THINGS CHANGED FOR ME.
THAT'S GONNA BE HARD,

AND THAT YOU ALWAYS HAD THESE KINDS OF FEELINGS.
YEAH
LET'S KEEP GOING!!
OF COURSE.

AH.
I'M GOING AHEAD.
AH, OKAY
SEE YOU TO-MOR-ROW

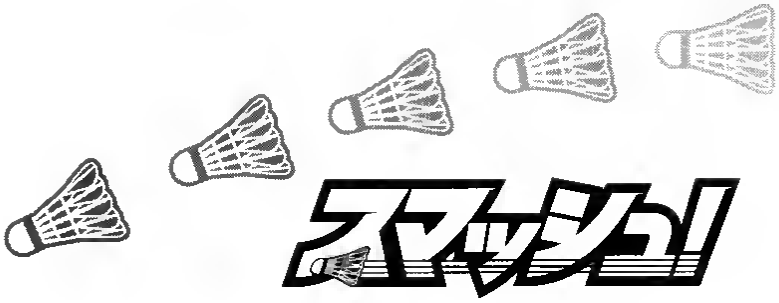


ひかり 757 21:20 新大阪 自由席
510 21:50 岡 山 自由席 7.51 15号車
ご注意ください。

15

スマッシュ！
YOU COME TOO, MIWA.
GOOD IDEA.
SHOUTA—
LET'S HIT SOME HUTTLES DURING LUNCH BREAK.
AZUMA SPOTTED!!
KYA~~~ IT'S BEEN A WHILE~~

#100 YOUNGSTERS
スマッシュ!


スマッシュ!

HOW WAS THE TRAINING CAMP?
IF I'M A BOTHER, I CAN LEAVE.
WHY NOT?
WHY DID YOU INVITE HER TOO?

LET'S PRACTICE SOME HAIRPINS TOGETHER.
NOW, NOW
NOT FOR ME.
BUT IT WAS PRETTY TIRING.
BEING AROUND SO MANY STRONG PLAYERS.
I'M ENVIOUS
PLOP
IT WAS A LOT OF WORK, BUT FUN.
WE MADE NEW FRIENDS TOO.
PLOP
ポトッ
トク
YAMATO AND HARU WERE THERE TOO, RIGHT?
WERE THEY WELL?
あはは
SAME GOES FOR HARU
OF COURSE, YAMATO WAS ENERGETIC AS ALWAYS.

I'M GLAD.
.....
.....
WHY DIDN'T YOU ASKED HIM DIRECTLY?
I BET YOU KEPT IN TOUCH WITH HIM THROUGH MAIL.
I WONDER.
WHY? I WAS JUST ASKING.
HOW ABOUT YOU GO PAY HIM A VISIT?
I'M NOT KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH HIM.
IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT HIS WELL BEING,
あれ
WHAT'S WITH THAT TONE?

こそっ
じ〜
AWW I WANNA BE THERE TOO~~~
BUT STILL
EVEN MORE HANDSOME~~~~♡
じ〜
HIM ENTERING THE U-19 TEAM MAKES HIM

AH,
HE- HELLO.
CALM DOWN, YOU TWO. DON'T FIGHT.
?!
WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?
HUH?
AH, YEAH, WELL.
ALL THE FIRST-YEARS.
THEN, LET'S GIVE YOU SOME POINTERS.
GREAT.
WE WANT TO GET BETTER FAST.
WE'RE PRACTICING DURING LUNCH BREAK TOO.
KYAA, AMAZING.
WOW.
EH?
REALLY ?

DAMN I'M TOO LATE.
I MISSED MY CHANCE TO JOIN.
MHM.
LET'S SEE.
YOU'RE CONTROLLING THE GAME
YOU PLAY GOOD COURSES AND TO GOOD PLACES

SO CARRY MORE CONFI-DENCE.
YOU THINK OF YOUR PARTNER WHEN YOU SHOOT,
THAT'S GOOD.
OKAY.
. . .
I UNDER-STAND.
IF YOU'RE MORE AG-GRESSIVE AT THE FRONT, THE OPPONENT CAN'T ATTACK.
SO DON'T BE SCARED, AND GO WITH ALL YOU HAVE.
THANK YOU.

...
UMM
IF YOU DON'T REACT FASTER, YOU DON'T HAVE THE ADVANTAGE.
YOU TWO REACT TOO SLOW TO THE SHLITTLECOCK.
WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO...
TO MAKE OUR REACTION FASTER?
DON'T ASK OTHERS FOR EVERYTHING.
THINK ABOUT THAT YOURSELF.

IF YOU DON'T THINK FOR YOURSELF, YOU CAN'T WIN!!
ONCE YOU ENTER THE COURT, YOU CAN ONLY RELY ON YOURSELF.
SORRY
S-
HE MADE HER CRY!!
AHH
UGH.
U-

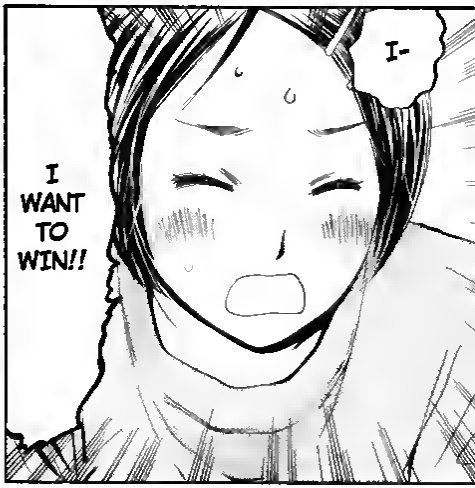
HE'S A DEVIL——!!

CRYING NOW,
OR CRYING AFTER YOU LOST A GAME, WHICH DO YOU THINK IS BETTER?

I-
I DON'T WANT TO LOSE

!!

Y-YES.
BUT JUST SOME HINTS.
THEN I'LL TEACH YOU A TRICK AT THE NET.


I-
I WANT TO WIN!!

I JUST NEED TO GO IN CASUALLY....
GRR~~~ I'M SO ENVIOUS~~~
THEY'RE GETTING TAUGHT BY SHOUTA-KUN~~
AH--
OKAY, HERE I GO!!
AZUMA-SENPAI~~!?
WHY ARE YOU TEACHING THE GIRLS?
"WHY"...?
IT JUST HAPPENED...?

THAT'S NOT FAIR!!
PLEASE TEACH ME TOO!
WELL...
YOU DON'T NEED TO SHOUT, I'LL DO IT.
NOT FAIR
ユキ
ユキ
ユキ
I MISSED MY TIMING AGAIN
UMM, WELL,
Y-YES.
PLEASE !!
THEN HOW ABOUT WE PLAY SINGLES?
トン…

SHOUTA'S
MOVEMENTS BECAME EVEN SMOOTHER.
SINCE HE HAS MORE TIME, HIS SHOTS GET PRECISER TOO.
WOW.
THEY'RE ALL BARELY INSIDE
AWE-SOME!!

SHOUTA
THAT TAKE ME A YEAR TO MASTER.
MANAGES TO MASTER PLAYS IN A FEW DAYS
HE'S AMAZING ...
YOU GOT BETTER, TAIYOU-KUN
NO I LOST
YOUR CLASSIC MISTAKES DECREASED TOO
REALLY?
YEAH, 'SPECIALLY YOUR PERSISTENCE
YOU'RE GIVING THE OPPONENT A HARD TIME
THEN, SEE YOU LATER
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!

SHOUTA IS REALLY AMAZING.
HE GOT EVEN STRONGER.
GUAAR.
I DIDN'T GO IN~~~~!!
AT THE TRAINING CAMP,
HE REALIZED SOMETHING
IT SEEMS HE HAS FOUND HIS RESOLVE
I BET WE'LL MEET YAMATO AND THE OTHERS AT THE INTERHIGH.
IF THEY MAKE IT THERE.
AS THE ACE.
AT THE INTER HIGH HE'LL LEAD OUR TEAM,

WHO ARE YOU GOING TO CHEER ON?
YOU AND SHOUTA, OF COURSE.
WE'RE ON THE SAME TEAM.
WHY ARE YOU ASKING THAT?
I ALREADY TOLD YOU I WOULD ALWAYS CHEER FOR YOU.
I WONDER ABOUT THAT.
IF YOU'RE DOUBTING ME THAT BAD,
THEN I'LL GIVE YOU A KISS IF YOU WIN!!
おかむかむかむかむかっっっ

GEH, SO EMBARRASSING. I FEEL STUPID——
AS IF THAT WOULD BE PROOF, IDIOT!
IS WHAT HE WILL SAY!
ARGH, WHAT AM I SAYING——?
!!
?
……
YOU'RE SERIOUS!?
!?

WH-
WHAT'S WITH HIM!?
YOU SAID IT!
IT'S A PROM-ISE!!
. . . .
DON'T GO BACK ON IT LATER!!
Y-
YEAH.
GOT IT!?

OKAY
—!!
ど…
…
ガッ…
N-
ぁっ!!
…
NO WAY
—!!
なあああ

HIS BAG IS STOKED IN THE LOCKER.
I SWEATED QUITE A BIT
I DIDN'T THOUGHT I WOULD TO HAVE TO PLAY SINGLES...
WASH
WASH
WASH
HUH?
EH? THANKS.
FOR TEACHING ME EARLIER.
THANK YOU...
YOU ...

AH?
I- I NEED TO SPEAK AT LEAST A WORD WITH SHOUTA!
I HAVE TO FIND HIM.
たたたた
GAH, WHY AM I ALWAYS TOO LATE?
そ、
EH?
WELL.
JUST BY SEEING ME PLAY ONCE, YOU POINTED OUT SO MUCH. .
YOU'RE AMAZING, AZUMA-SENPAI
NO!! IT WASN'T OBVIOUS AT ALL!!
す゛!!
IT WAS PRETTY OBVIOUS...
SO I DON'T THINK IT WAS SUCH A BIG DEAL

SO I WAS ALWAYS A BIT LOST ABOUT MY SHOTS.
I WAS KIND OF AWARE OF MY MIS-TAKES.
SO WHEN YOU TOLD ME I PLAYED WELL, I WAS HAPPY.
OF COURSE.
YOU WERE THE FIRST ONE TO TELL ME SO.
YEAH.
CAN WE PLAY TOGETHER NEXT TIME?
CAN I...
CAN I COME ASK YOU FOR ADVICE AGAIN?

FALL IN LOVE WITH YOU?
!!!
TH-
THAT ...

INTER HIGH
QUALIFICATIONS
BEGIN.

CAN I ...
FALL IN LOVE WITH YOU?
スマッシュ!
TH-
THAT...
EH ——!?
#101 THEIR DREAMS

I CAN'T HAVE ANOTHER RIVAL!!
WHAT IS SHE SAYING?
OF COURSE YOU CAN'T ——!!
....
UMM ...
I'M FLATTERED BY YOUR FEELINGS, BUT...
SORRY.
I CAN'T RESPOND TO THEM ...
....

DO YOU HAVE SOMEONE YOU LOVE?
YEAH.
.....

I'LL TRY MY BEST NOT TO FALL IN LOVE WITH YOU.
... I UNDER-STAND.
THEN,
SORRY FOR SAYING SOME-THING SO STRANGE
EXCUSE ME.
OKAY, SEE YOU.
THANKS FOR THE TOWEL
I SHOULD BE RELIEVED...
BUT IT'S LIKE I'M REJECTED TOO.
ズキン
....

キュッ
キュッ
キュッ
キュッ
ENOUGH FOR TODAY!!
TOMORROW IS THE FIRST ROUND OF THE INTER HIGH QUALIFICATIONS,
SO TAKE A GOOD REST TODAY!
はい
Y- YEAH
WE'RE THE FIRST DOUBLES TOMORROW,
SO LET'S GET INTO THE SPIRIT, SUZU!
IT'S GOTTEN SO HOT.
TOO MUCH SWEAT
I NEED A SHOWER.
THIS IS OUR LAST CHANCE,
I DEFINITELY WANT TO GO THE INTER HIGH

AS SENIORS WE CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE.
WE HAVE TO WIN.
YEAH...
シャッ
I GUESS THE BOYS WILL MAKE IT.
IT'S OUR LAST CHANCE ...
I WANT TO
GO TO THE INTER HIGH WITH SHOUTA-KUN...

...
YEAH
AMAZ-ING
WE HAVE NO CHANCE AGAINST THOSE TWO ANYMORE
HE GOT EVEN BETTER THROUGH THAT TRAIN-ING CAMP

TOMORROW, THE QUALIFICATIONS BEGIN.
DON'T LOSE CONCENTRATION AND GO FULL POWER!!
YES!!
THEN,
I'LL ANNOUNCE THE PLAYERS
?
!!!
FIRST DOUBLES:
AZUMA SHOUTA AND SAKURAI KAITO.

WH- WHY WITH KAITO ...
NOT FAIR
SECOND SINGLES: YAMAZAKI
FIRST SINGLES: MATSUNAGA
SECOND DOUBLES NOHARA AND KAWAGUCHI
THIRD SINGLES HASHIBA
I'M THE THIRD SINGLES...

I MADE THIS LINE-UP, SO THAT YOU GET MORE EXPERIENCE IN OFFICIAL GAMES.
IF YOU LOSE, IT'S OVER FOR THIS YEAR.
YOUR GREATEST ENEMY IS YOUR OWN WEAK HEART.
IF YOU DOUBT YOURSELF, THE PRESSURE WILL SMASH YOU
BUT I BELIEVE
YOU CAN PULL IT OFF.
WIN AGAINST THE PRESSURE!!
YES!!

TRUTH IS...
AH, MIZUNO, WAIT A SEC.
OKAY
I HAVE NO PLANS TO USE YOU FOR THE INTER HIGH THIS YEAR.
I-
I SEE
...
I KNOW THAT YOU'RE TRAINING HARD.
AND THAT YOU'RE PRETTY KNOWL-EDGE-ABLE.
BUT I WANT YOU TO HELP NOHARA GUIDE THE NEW MEM-BERS
...

MEANS...?
UHM...
THAT
AS A MANAGER, HUH...
YE
GET READY.
HE WAS PRETTY DILI-GENT.
SPEAKING OF WHICH, LAST YEAR, YOSHIKAWA-SENPAI HANDLED EVERYTHING
I WANT YOU TO WORK AS A MANAGER.
WELL, CAN'T BE HELPED.
SINCE I SUCK ANYWAY.

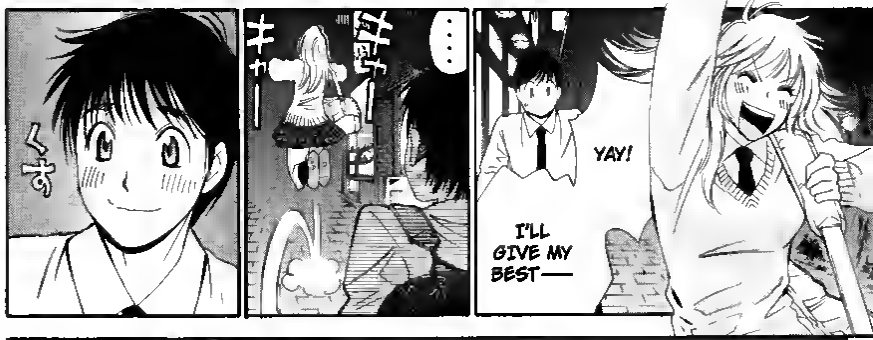
I'VE INVESTED 3 YEARS INTO IT...
I'VE COME THIS FAR ALREADY, I CAN'T QUIT NOW.
I DIDN'T WIN IN ANY GAMES,
SO OF COURSE I'M NOT IN THE LINE-UP.
...
AND I LOVE BADMINTON!!
...
DAMN...
EVEN THOUGH I LOVE IT SO MUCH...

WAH.
ばっ
SHOUTA-KUN!!
ドキドキドキドキ
SHE ALWAYS POPS OUT OF NO-WHERE.
YAY! I FINALLY GOT HIM!
ハッ
SO I'M GLAD I GET TO PLAY FIRST
BUT I GET MORE NERVOUS THE LONGER I WAIT
I HEARD, YOU'RE ALSO PLAYING FIRST DOUBLES?
BEING FIRST MAKES ONE NERVOUS, RIGHT?
DON'T SAY IT!
THEN THE THIRD SINGLES MUST BE HELL FOR YOU.

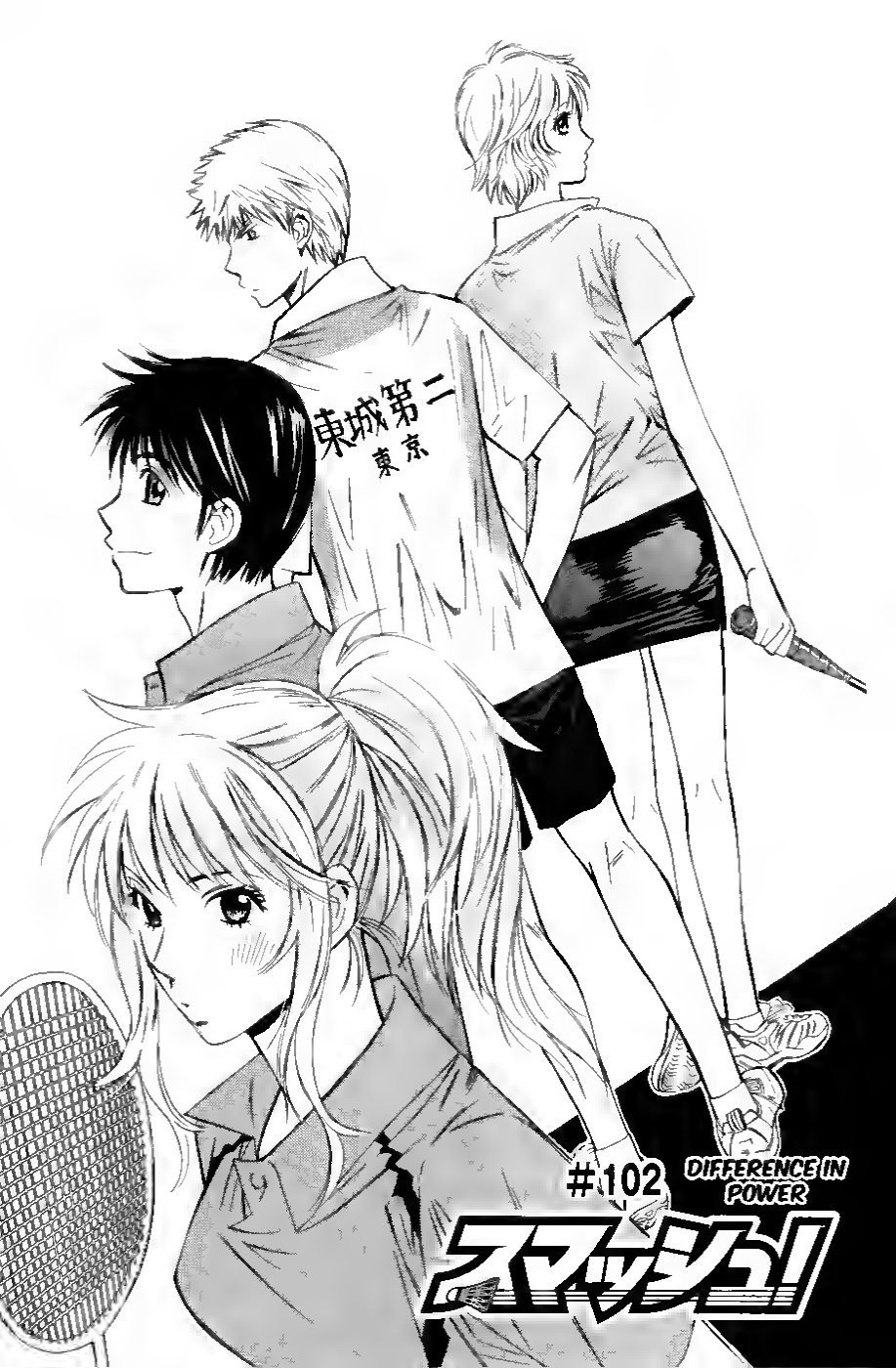
BUT WE GIRLS ALWAYS BARELY MAKE THE QUALIFICATION.
YOU BOYS ARE STRONG AND ARE EXPECTED TO WIN.
I COULDN'T PLAY LAST YEAR, SINCE I WAS INJURED.
SO I'M PRETTY EXCITED NOW
BUT SINCE THIS YEAR IS MY LAST,
I WANT TO GO WITH EVERYONE.
SO I CAN'T LOSE.
AND ALSO,
I DEFINITELY WANT TO GO TO THE INTER HIGH.

CAN I ASK A FAVOR OF YOU,
TO HELP ME REACH THE INTER HIGH?
GO AHEAD.
UMM...
IF I WIN IN THE QUALIFI-CATIONS...
WOULD YOU TAKE...
A PHOTO WITH ME ...?
か あ あ

SURE, THAT'S FINE!!
ぉぁぁぁ


YAY!
I'LL GIVE MY BEST——
……
キャー
ぁぁぁ
くす

YOU'RE REALLY FINE WITH JUST A PHOTO?
THERE'S A PHOTO BOOTH OVER THERE
証明写
WE COULD TAKE ONE RIGHT NOW.
EH, THAT'S NOT GOOD.
THEN IT DOESN'T SERVE AS A REWARD!!
YONEX




# #102 DIFFERENCE IN POWER

# スマッシュ!

ROUND ONE OF THE INTER HIGH QUALIFI-CATIONS.
We ♡ Water Planet

POW
POW
Y- YEAH
LET'S GIVE IT OUR ALL, SUZU!
SPIRIT! THE SPIRIT!!
UWA... EVERYONE LOOKS SO STRONG...
FIRST I WANT YOU TO GET SOME WINS.
THE MOST IMPORTANT THING NOW IS THAT YOU PLAY LIKE YOU ALWAYS DO.
JUST KEEP RELAXED.
YES.

YEAH
BE SURE TO WARM UP PROPERLY
THE RACKET SHOUTA-KUN CHOSE FOR ME...
証明写真
10
THEN IT DOESN'T SERVE AS A REWARD!!
WE COULD TAKE ONE RIGHT NOW
.....

証明写真
SO MEAN.
JUST A JOKE.
あはは
UGH-
YOU'RE SO FUNNY
む―
SHOUTA-KUN IS SO KIND...
YONEX
PLEASE DO YOUR BEST TO-MORROW!!

BUT...
IT MIGHT NOT BE RE-WARDED...
NO MATTER WHAT I DO, HE DOESN'T GET ANGRY...
HOW MANLY.
YEAH.
PLEASE GIVE YOUR BEST!!
EVERY PLAYER PLEASE GET ON THE COURT.
WE'RE BEGINNING THE FIRST MATCHES.
I'LL GIVE IT MY ALL!!

ON MY RIGHT, YAMAGUCHI-SAN AND SUDA-SAN FROM SEIJOU HIGH SCHOOL
ON MY LEFT, TAKAYANAGI-SAN AND EBISAWA-SAN FROM TOUJOU DAINI HIGH SCHOOL
Wate
CONCEN-TRATION!
FIRST GAME
YAMAGU-CHI-SAN SERVES TO TAKAYANA-GI-SAN
0 - 0, PLAY!!

KAITO-KUN,
LET'S PLAY CALMLY.
ポン
OKAY.
EACH COURT, PLEASE START THE MATCHES.

DAMN, STUPID KAITO~~~
HE GETS TO PLAY WITH AZUMA-SENPAI, I'M SO ENVI-OUS~~
Y-YEAH
YOU WANT TO AS WELL, RIGHT KAWAGU-CHI?
I WANT TO PLAY DOUBLES WITH HIM TOO~~
BUT,
UGH
THE OPPONENTS WILL ONLY AIM FOR YOU
AND YOUR MISSES WILL GIVE THEM POINTS
EVEN IF YOUR CHANCE TO WIN RISES IF YOU PAIR UP WITH SOMEONE STRONGER,
IT'LL BE YOUR FAULT IF YOU LOSE, YOU KNOW.
BALANCE IS IMPORTANT IN DOUBLES.
IF YOU'RE CLEARLY WEAKER THAN YOUR PART-NER——

THEN THE PRESSURE ON YOU IS UN-BEARABLE.
0 - 0, PLAY!!

AWWW. SO CLOSE!!

I BET HE IS.
ISN'T KAITO ..
WAY TOO STIFF?
IT'S FINE, DON'T WORRY.
SORRY
OF COURSE
IS NERVOUS NOW!?
THE ALWAYS IMPUDENT AND UNSOCIAL KAITO,
JUST LOOK
WHO FLICKS AT EVERY MISTAKE I MAKE,

AZUMA-SENPAI FOLLOWS UP, IF KAITO SCREWS UP.
REALIZING YOUR OWN MISTAKES DURING A RALLY INCREASES THE PRESSURE.
THIS CONTEST IS ALL ABOUT KAITO'S MENTAL STRENGTH.
IN THE END, HE'LL JUST SMILE AND SAY "NO PROBLEM"
HE'S THAT KIND OF UNCUTE GUY
BY THE WAY, THE GIRLS ARE PLAYING RIGHT NOW TOO, RIGHT?
I WONDER HOW THEY'RE DOING
LET'S MAIL THEM LATER.

4
20
19
0
0
FIGHT!!
JUST ONE MORE POINT----
GO, SENPAIS —!
THERE IS ONE—!!
FOR A GAP TO APPEAR!!
AND WAIT
KEEP THE RALLY GOING

KYAAAAAA

I'M THE MANAGER NOW.
WELL,

MIZUNO, WHY ARE YOU HOLDING THE SCORE BOARD?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
MANAGER?

EEH!?

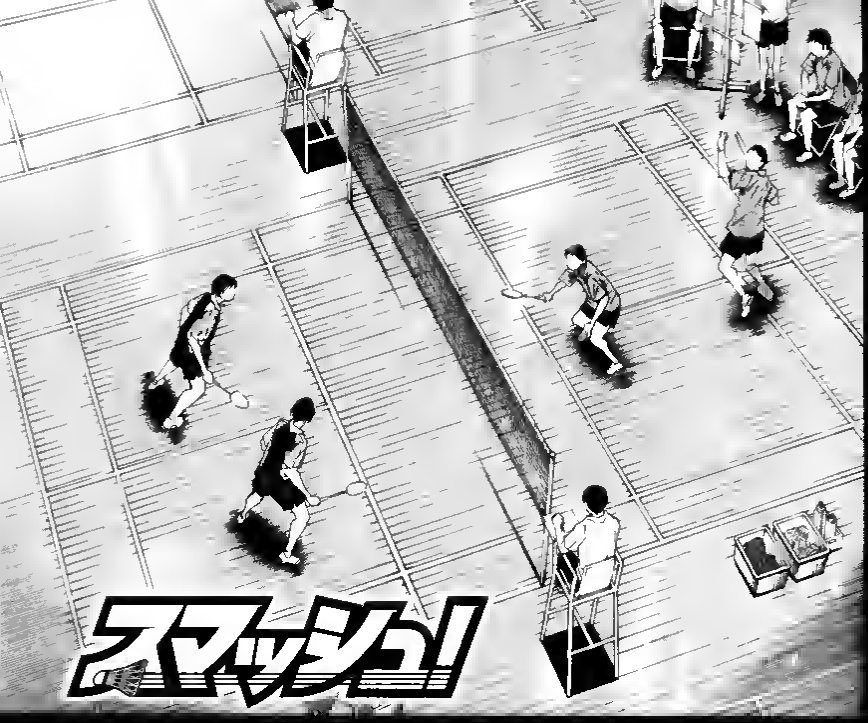
YOU SEE,
KITA-SENSEI ASKED ME TO.

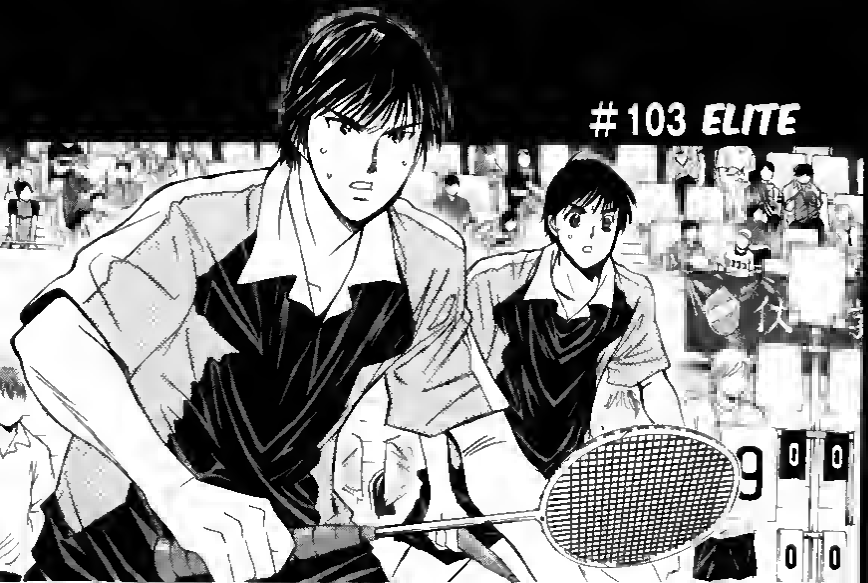
TH-
THAT...

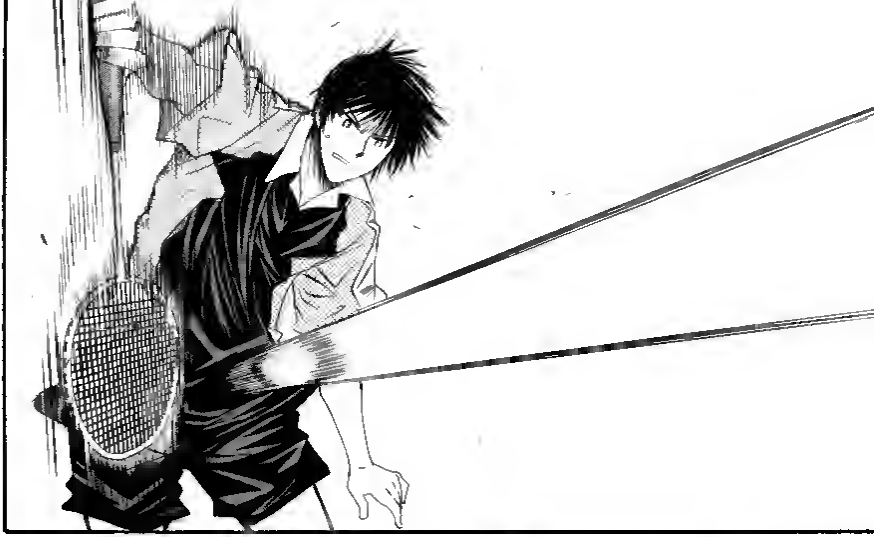
MIZ-UNO ...
BUT IT'S A GOOD DIS-TRACTION.
I CAN'T HELP IT.

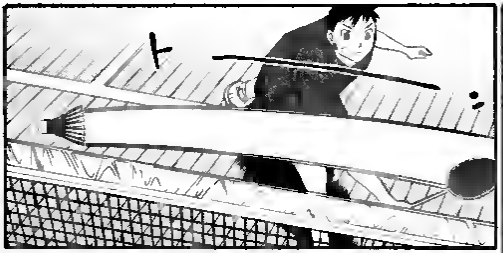
DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT!!
I'M FINE!! I TELL YOU!!
IT WAS DEFINITELY A SHOCK....
IF I THINK ABOUT IT, THIS IS NO DIFFERENT FROM CHEERING FROM THE BENCH.
AWWW, I CAN'T LET THEM SEE MY DEPRESSED FACE.
IT WOULD BE BAD, IF IT AFFECTS THEM.
I ALWAYS LIKED TO THE TAKE THE SCORE AND ANALYZE THE ENEMY.
AND ABOVE ELSE, I CAN SEE TOP PLAYERS PLAY CLOSE UP.
FRIGGIN INTERESTING...
DAMN.
BADMINTON IS...

THEY'RE—
ACK.
ONLY AIMING FOR ME—!!

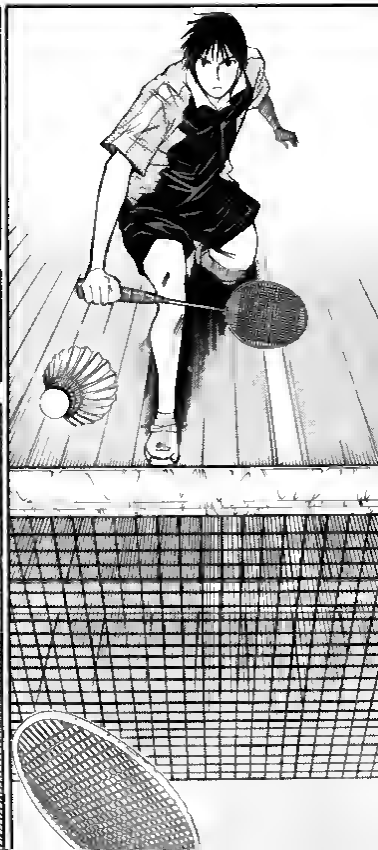

スマッシュ!


#103 ELITE





GRR.



YEAH
THEY'RE ONLY AIMING FOR HIM
HE NEEDS TO BE PERSIS-TENT
WITH THINGS LIKE THAT, HE CAN ONLY SOLVE IT HIMSELF

I HAD MY WORRIES WHEN I HEARD WE'RE AGAINST THEIR FIRST DOUBLES,
WE JUST HAVE TO AIM FOR THE FIRST-YEAR
HELL YEAH, WE CAN DO IT!
14 - 14 !
WE MIGHT REALLY WIN THIS
BUT IT'S NOT THEIR USUAL AZUMA - HASHIBA PAIR, SO THERE'S NO PROBLEM.
HE MIGHT BE PRETTY DISTRESSED
WHAT IS KAITO DOING, THAT IDIOT!
TONS OF SIMPLE MISTAKES!!
!!

WELL...
...
ESPECIALLY NOW HE HAS TO PLAY FULL POWER, RIGHT?
WHY IS HE DOING SO BAD? HE'S PAIRING UP WITH AZUMA-SENPAI!!
WHY DID YOU PAIR THOSE TWO UP?
YEAH.
IT'S... WORSE THAN I THOUGHT.
LOGICALLY SEEN, THAT'S TRUE...
HE STILL DOES BASIC MISTAKES.
WHILE KAITO IS A GOOD PLAYER.

IT HAPPENS OFTEN, OR?
HE HAS A WALL CALLED "NO SELF-CONFIDENCE" BEFORE HIM
MEAN-ING?
TO OTHERS IT MAY SEEM LIKE YOU'RE ALREADY PERFECT.
BUT YOU KNOW BETTER YOURSELF YOU THINK SUB-CONSCIOUSLY "I CAN'T WIN"
BUT NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU RAISE, THERE'LL BE A NEXT LEVEL.
GOOD PLAYERS ARE ALWAYS SEEK-ING QUALITY
YOUR TRUE MIND THAT AWAITS YOU BEHIND THOSE THOUGHT.
こずに
SO... HOW YOU DO THAT...?
THAT'S A REALLY PROBLEMATIC THOUGHT AND CAN ONLY BE REWRITTEN
BY YOURSELF AND NO ONE ELSE

CAN ONLY BE FOUND WHEN YOU'RE CORNERED.
DAMMIT!!
IT SHOULDN'T BE LIKE THIS!
I'M WAY BETTER.
WAY STRON-GER.
AT LEAST STRONGER THAN THOSE TWO.

SINCE MY PARENTS BOTH PLAYED BADMINTON,
I'VE HAD TRAINING SINCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.
I TRAINED AND TRAINED, BECOMING NUMBER ONE OF MY TEAM
AND PRODUCED GOOD RESULT IN GAMES.
SO WHY AM I MAKING SO MANY MIS-TAKES!?
I'VE NEVER PLAYED GAMES I WAS BOUND TO LOSE.
WHY BOTHER IF I CAN'T WIN.
THERE IS NO VALUE IN LOSES.
THAT'S RIGHT.
I LOVE BADMINTON, BECAUSE I WIN.

GAME SET!!
21 1521
192117
WINNER: SEIJOU HIGH SCHOOL !!
DON'T KID ME, KAITO!!
WHAT WAS THAT PATHETIC GAME!?
...
YOU'VE BETRAYED EVERYONE'S EXPECTATIONS.
IT WAS A TOTAL MENTAL LOSS.
REFLECT RIGHT NOW!
YOU HAVE IT NICE
WITH NO EXPECTATIONS ON YOU.
SO YOU CAN SHOUT LIKE THAT. HOW EASY-GOING
...

YOU'RE STRONG ...
I'VE ALWAYS RESPECTED YOU.
TILL NOW
.....
.....
!!

I CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT TALENT IS NOT EVERY-THING.
YOU'RE NO USE IN CRU-CIAL TIMES.
BUT
AND HAVE TALENT. I WAS JEALOUS OF YOU.

DEFI-NITELY
I'LL

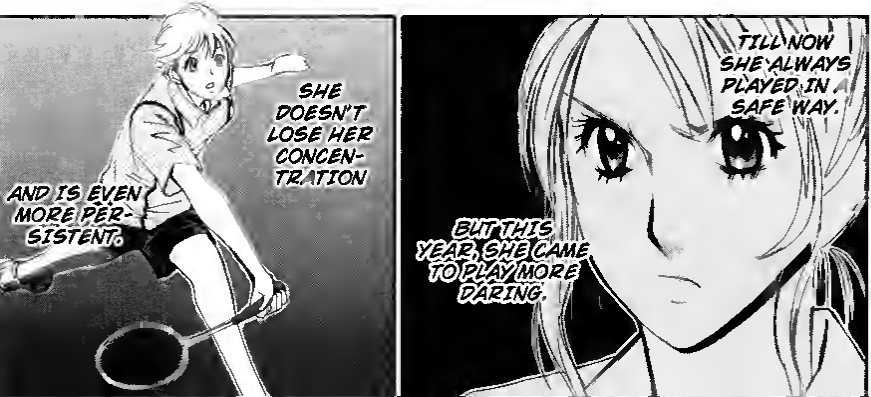
BECOME STRONGER THAN YOU!!
STUPID TAIYOU
DAMN
AND BAD-MOUTHING ME IF I LOSE
JUST PUTTING HOPES ON ME
SAYING WHAT-EVER HE WANTS...
TELL-ING ME TO WIN
NOT EVEN CON-SIDERING MY POSI-TION
I WON'T EVER.
DAMN

PLAY SUCH A
DISGUSTING GAME
AGAIN——!!

WINNER: TOUJO DAINI HIGH SCHOOL !!
EHE, THANKS
YOU DID WELL, KAWAGUCHI-KUN. NICE!!
よしゃー
FIRST POINT!!
TH-THANK YOU
FIRST TIME I WAS PRAISED LIKE THAT
CAP-TAIN.
OKAY, I'M NEXT!
HERE I GO!!
YOU'RE TALL, SO I CAN LEAVE BOTH THE FRONT AND THE BACK TO YOU WITH EASE.
IT WAS PLEASANT TO PLAY WITH YOU!
IT'S THANKS TO YOUR GAME MAKING THAT WE WON!!

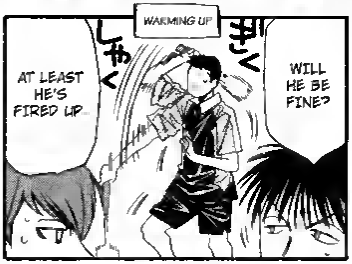
MAIL WITH ERISAWA
THE GIRLS WON BOTH DOUBLES
MIWA IS PLAYING THE NEXT SINGLES
HE SEEMS IN GOOD FORM
YEAH

NICE ONE!!
POINT!


AND IS EVEN MORE PERSISTENT.
SHE DOESN'T LOSE HER CONCENTRATION
BUT THIS YEAR, SHE CAME TO PLAY MORE DARING.
TILL NOW SHE ALWAYS PLAYED IN A SAFE WAY.

YAY!

ONE MORE!!
NOW THE SCORE IS 2 - 1.


WARMING UP
AT LEAST HE'S FIRED UP.
WILL HE BE FINE?

RING

ANAN

THIS SUMMER
SHE WILL BE OUR ACE.

MIWA WON.
THAT'S THEIR THIRD WIN, SO THEY'RE ADVANCING TO THE NEXT ROUND.
I SEE.
SHOUTA
EH?
JUST TO MAKE SURE,
THERE IS NOTHING BETWEEN YOU GUYS, RIGHT?
HUH ?
AH! YOU MEAN MIWA?
WELL, YEAH. WE'RE JUST CHILD-HOOD FRIENDS, WHY?
I HAVE A PROMISE WITH HER.
. . . .
ABOUT ?
?
たかト

I LOVE
HER.
AHAHA-
HAHAHA
YEAH
SEEMS LIKE IT WILL BE DECIDED IN THE THIRD SINGLES

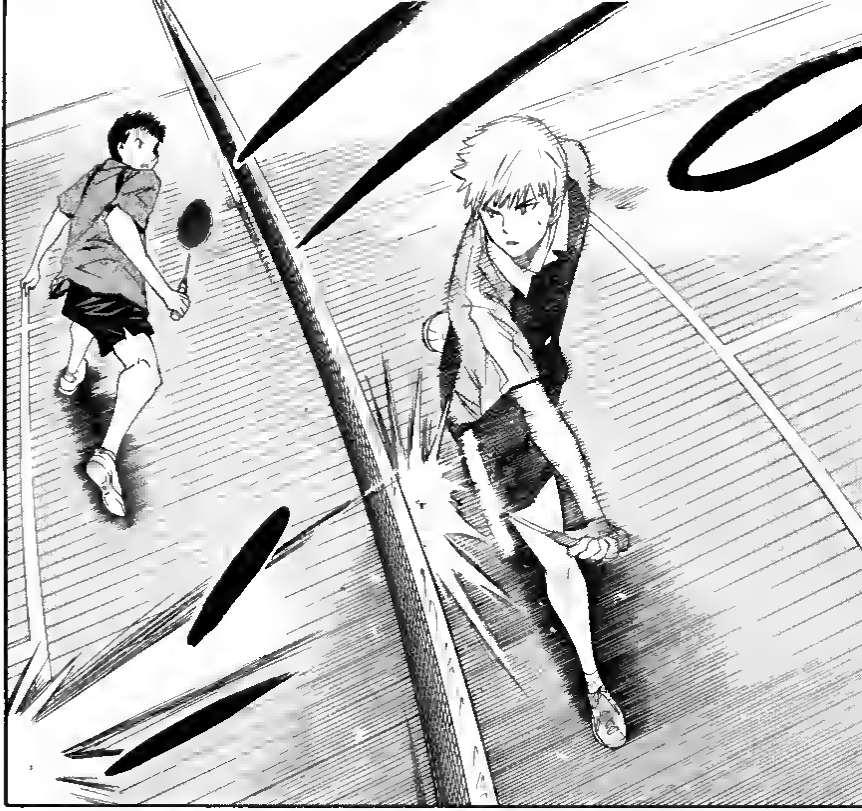
# #104 FRIENDS

# スマッシュ!

I'M ALWAYS LOSING.
I'M SO SORRY!
PLEASE ANAN
WE CAN'T BE ELIMI-NATED IN THE FIRST ROUND!
GO FOR IT, ANAN!
YEAH.
JUST RELAX, ANAN.
LEAVE IT TO ME.
S- SO RELIABLE
DAMN, NOW HE'S ACTING ALL MIGHTY!!
THE FIGHT STARTS NOW.

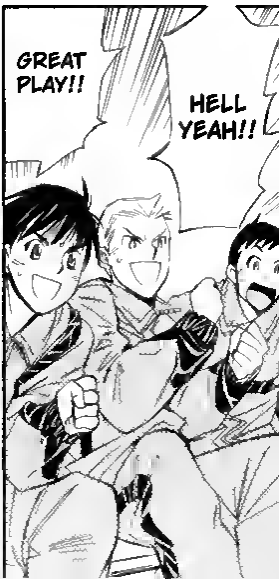
AZUMA-SENPAI.
I'M SORRY.
WE LOST BECAUSE OF ME.
DON'T WORRY.
IT WAS MY RESPONSI-BILITY.
NO, YOU'RE STRONGER THAN ME.
ALL FAULT LIES WITH ME
0 - 0, PLAY!!

YOU'RE ALSO STRONG.
BUT I'M YOUR SENIOR.
DOU-BLES IS PLAYED WITH TWO.
BOTH ARE AT FAULT WHEN LOSING
DESPITE THAT I DIDN'T SUPPORT YOU PROPERLY DURING THE GAME.
I'M RE-FLECTING ON THAT.
WELL,
LET'S DO OUR BEST IN THE NEXT ONE.
NOW LET'S CHEER.



PRECISE PLAYS WERE ALWAYS HIS FORTE
SEEMS HASHIBA IS IN TOP FORM
GOOD

THAT'S THE WAY


GREAT PLAY!!
HELL YEAH!!

IT GIVES HIM A SENSE OF SECURITY
HIS DAILY PRACTICE HAS PAID OFF

GRR.
NICE ONE.
YEAH
OUR TRAIN-ING WAS STRICT,
BUT IT SHOWS
SO PRECISELY PLAYED!!
I...
YOU WERE ALWAYS HAVING THESE FEEL-INGS
LET'S MEET AT THE INTER HIGH!!

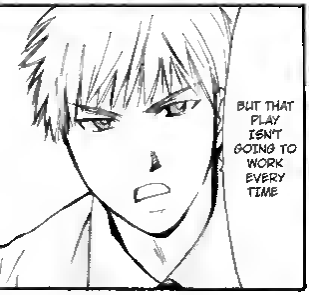
LIVE BECAUSE
OF BADMINTON.

BECAUSE I HAVE FRIENDS.

YONEX

NOW WE'RE IN THE BEST 8.
WE SOMEHOW MADE A COMEBACK.
AHHH— I'M GLAD.
I WAS
YOU'RE STILL DEPRESSED?
GET OVER IT ALREADY.
BUT THE FIRST ROUND WAS REALLY CLOSE.
WE WON ALL GAMES FROM THE SECOND ROUND ON.
WHEN I LOST IN DOUBLES BEFORE, I BLAMED MY PARTNER.
I WAS ALWAYS THINKING OF MYSELF, NOT OF OTHERS.
IT'S THE FIRST TIME
KAITO
I THOUGHT JUST WINNING WOULD BE IMPORTANT.
I THOUGHT AS LONG AS I PLAYED WELL, WE COULD WIN.
ONLY THINKING ABOUT MYSELF DURING THE MATCH.
IT SHOULDN'T BE LIKE THIS.
I'M WAY BETTER.

I FEEL SO PATHETIC.
SEEMS THEY WON TOO.
WHAT ABOUT THE GIRLS?
AH, THERE THEY ARE.
SHOUTA-KUN~
YOU WANNA JOIN IN?
TO CELEBRATE OUR WINS I THOUGHT WE SHOULD EAT TOGETHER
YEAH!
OF COURSE WE'RE IN!
IDIOT!


BUT THAT PLAY ISN'T GOING TO WORK EVERY TIME

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
I MANAGED TO DO WHAT YOU TAUGHT ME THE OTHER DAY

UMM, HASHIBA SENPAI

YOU'RE AN IDIOT!?
HUH!?
SO- SORRY I'M NOT SO BRIGHT

AGAINST AN OPPONENT WHO'S GOOD AT ADAPTING, IT'S NO GOOD
?

THAT'S A SHAME...
I SEE
SORRY FOR BEING ONE

... DO YOU UNDERSTOOD WHAT I SAID?
???

IDIOTS CAN'T GET BETTER AT BADMINTON.
BHHH!?
WELL
TH- THAT'S NOT GOOD.
YOU'RE AN IDIOT
I- I'M HARD WORKING.
NOT POS-SIBLE.
WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO GET WISER?
PLEASE TEACH ME.
MAY I LAUGH ?
IT'S FUNNY, BUT YOU BETTER DON'T
I- I UNDER-STAND.
THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS TO BE WISE
THINK ABOUT IT FOR YOUR-SELF.
ANAN-KUN SEEMS TO HAVE FUN TALKING WITH THAT GIRL.
A RARE SIGHT
AND HE ONLY GETS ANGRY WITH ME.
むぐぐぐぐ…
AH.
WHAT WAS THAT?
COULD IT BE...
I'M FEELING JEALOUS !?

WITH SHOUTA!? AND HE LOST!?
HE PAIRED UP WITH AZUMA-SENP...! AND LOST.
ひそ
ひそ
WHAT'S UP WITH KAITO-KUN?
...
NO, THANKS.
KAITO-KUN TAKE A BITE?
しず
SOMEHOW
IN UNSOCIAL AND BAD MOOD TERMS
HE RESEMBLES ANAN-KUN.
JUST A BITE.
SO I HAD A PRETTY HARD TIME,
BUT BY CONCENTRATING ON PLAYING, I OVERCAME THAT.
IT'S JUST MY PAST BABBLE
I COULDN'T WIN AT ALL LAST YEAR,

HUH?
YES
BUT GIVE YOUR BEST NEXT TIME,
OKAY?
IT'S MY FIRST TIME SEEING
KAITO BLUSHING
EH?
HEY, HINA-CHAN
AZUMA-SENPAI, IF I CAN FALL IN LOVE WITH HIM.
YOU KNOW THE OTHER DAY I ASKED

BUT HE ALREADY HAS SOMEONE HE LOVES.
I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE BAD TO LOVE HIM SECRETLY...
GEH... A CONFESSION!?
SO...
SINCE A ONE-SIDED LOVE IS POINTLESS
BUT...
HIYORI
SO I DECIDED NOT TO FALL IN LOVE WITH HIM
EH? THEN...
SINCE THEN I CAN ONLY THINK OF HIM.
WHAT SHOULD I DO?

あはは
I'LL DEFINITELY GIVE MY BEST IN THE NEXT GAME TOO!!
WE'RE RELYING ON YOU, SUZU.
SHOUTA-KUN, COME CHEER US ON.
DAMN
WHY IS IT ALWAYS AZUMA?
DAMN HIM.
DON'T WORRY, HE ALREADY HAS A GIRLFRIEND
SO THERE'S NO USE HAVING ALL THE GIRLS OVER HIM
EVEN MORE REASON TO HATE HIM!!
GOOD THING WE WON~~~!!
AW—
THE FIRST ROUND WAS SO CLOSE...
WHAT SHOULD I DO ABOUT THE NEXT GAME...
MHM.
TOUJO DAINI HIGH SCHOOL ADVANCES TO INTER HIGH QUALIFICATION'S BEST EIGHT.

# 105 INTERESTING!
スマッシュ!

ナンか
ナンか
ガタン

I FINISHED IT ALL. SO I'M OFF TO PRACTICE NOW.
WHERE ARE YOU GOING, KAWASE?
PUT
HIYORI.
AND I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT I'M DOING.
YOU DIDN'T KNOW? SHE'S REALLY SMART.
FINISHED, SHE SAYS I'M ONLY HALFWAY!
BUT SHE CAME HERE BECAUSE SHE WANTED TO PLAY BADMIN-TON.
SHE WAS INVITED TO SOME ELITE SCHOOL,

NOT GOOD, I NEED A 100% SUCCESS RATE WITH MY SERVES.
BUT WITH AN OPPONENT IN FRONT OF YOU,
THE PRESSURE TENDS TO BRING ABOUT MISTAKES.
BY PLAYING A HIGH SERVE TO AVOID HITTING THE NET, IT'LL BE PUSHED BACK.
AND IF IT'S TOO LOW, IT WON'T BE IN-FIELD.
THAT COURSE IS BEST.

BADMINTON IS SO COMPLICATED...
OH?
AH...
ALREADY DONE WITH YOUR TEST?
.....!
I HAD NO CLUE AT ALL, SO I CAME HERE,
TO RELIEVE ALL THE BUILD-UP STRESS
...
HOW WAS YOUR TEST?
AH...
I FINISHED IT PRETTY QUICKLY
IT WAS EASY

WOW
YOU'RE PRETTY SMART THEN, HIYORI-CHAN!!
I'M SO ENVIOUS —!
HOW DO I NEED TO STUDY TO GET A GOOD SCORE?
WE-WELL...
AND?
I SEE. I SEE.
AND REMEMBER USEFUL PATTERNS.
MEMORIZE THE IMPORTANT THINGS.
PLE-
PLEASE WAIT A MOMENT.
?
IF YOU LOOK AT ME SO INTENSELY...
I GET EMBARRASSED.

WOULD YOU PRACTICE WITH ME?
UMM...
S-SORRY.
EH!?
WAS IT THAT INTENSE?
しょんぼり...
はあ
あ

SO FAST!!
IT'S NOT LIKE HE'S HITTING IT WITH ALL HIS MIGHT,
BUT IT'S STILL SO FAST.
AZUMA-SENPAI,
THIS IS A SHOT FROM A TOP PLAYER...
COULD YOU SMASH, WHEN I PLAY HIGH?
EH?
WITHOUT HOLDING BACK
OKAY

ARE YOU OKAY !?
!!
KYAA
. . . .
DID IT HIT YOU?

GOOD THING
NO, I'M FINE
BE CAREFUL
NOT TO GET INJURED
YOU'RE NOT HURT?
BY IT'S SPEED
I WAS JUST SURPRISED
DID YOU INJURE YOURSELF BEFORE?
YEAH
DURING A GAME IN MY FIRST YEAR
MY ACHILLES TENDON RIPPED
LUCKILY I RECOVERED FAST
BUT NOT BEING ABLE TO PLAY IS REALLY PAINFUL

WHEN I THINK BACK TO MY REHAB,
I FEEL I CAN GIVE MY BEST, NO MATTER HOW STRICT THE TRAINING IS.
...
UMM ...
AZUMA-SENPAI ...
AH, LUNCH BREAK
LET'S GO EAT SOMETHING
I'M HUNGRY.
OKAY
ANAN
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?
AT THE GYM.
ガヨン

YEAH.
JUST DON'T FAIL ANY.
OTHERWISE YOU CAN'T PLAY IN GAMES
HOW WAS YOUR TEST, ANAN?
SO-SO
U- UMM,
YOU CAN'T PLAY IN GAMES IF YOU FAIL THE TESTS?
KOTOMI. DON'T TELL ME, YOU
THAT WHAT IT MEANS.
IT'S PENALTY FOR NOT HAVING SELF-DISCI-PLINE
EH
SHARED RESPONSI-BILITY.
YOU HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF THAT TO-GETHER.
I WON'T BE ABLE TO PLAY DOUBLES THEN.
HEY, YOU CAN'T DO THAT!
MY MATHS...
DAMN

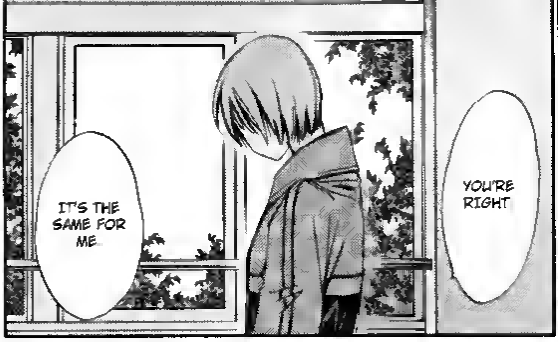
HOW DO I GET A GRIP?
YES...
YOU HAVE TO GET A GRIP,
OR ELSE YOU'LL CAUSE TROUBLE TO OTHERS
S- SO MEAN.
SHE'S ALWAYS LATE, FORGETS HER THINGS AND HER SERVING SUCKS.
PLEASE TEACH HER, HASHIBA-SENPAI!!
IT TROUBLES US.
COME HERE.
TIME FOR A LECTURE.
スパーン
.....
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
LET'S STOP HERE.
AHAHA
IT'LL BE FINE.
PROBABLY
キャーー
.....!!

PL- PLEASE WAIT A MOMENT
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND THINGS BECAUSE YOU'RE ALWAYS TOO UNSETTLED
YOU HAVE TO CONCENTRATE MORE AND THINK ABOUT IT BY TRACING BACK YOUR STEPS
TOO UNSETTLED.
I'LL THINK ABOUT A WAY TO EXPLAIN IT TO YOU, SO YOU UNDERSTAND IT
I GET IT...
HUH?
I WANT TO BE SMART
I SEE...
I LISTEN WITH ALL MY MIGHT, BUT I STILL DON'T HAVE A CLUE...
I EVEN GOT YOU MAD
BUT I WANT TO UNDERSTAND IT
IT REALLY IS!
MUST BE HARD TO BE AN IDIOT
AH...

WHY DOES YOUR HAIR ALWAYS STICK UP THERE?
AH, I HAVE CURLY HAIR
I ALWAYS STRAIGHTEN IT WITH THE DRYER IN THE MORNING,
BUT AROUND NOON IT ALWAYS REVERTS BACK
PLOP
HOW RARE, ANAN IS LAUGHING
IT'S A REAL PAIN.
PL- PLEASE DON'T LAUGH AT IT
AHAHAHAHA

EH?
TIME TO GO
TO THE GYM.
YOU'RE INTERESTING.
YES.
OKAY, LET'S GO EVERYONE.
HUH?
HEY, WE'RE COMING TOO.
LET'S HIT A BIT TO DIGEST
WE'RE GOING TO GET SOME GIRLS... I MEAN TRAINING TOO!!
WE CAN'T HAVE AZUMA HOOK ALL THE GIRLS... I MEAN ALL THE TRAINING.

MH?
AZUMA-SEN-PAI.
WHY DO YOU
LOVE BAD-MINTON SO MUCH?
BADMINTON IS FUN.
THAT'S BECAUSE



To be continued

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